

Message Text

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62

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /083 W
----- 057806

R 100110Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7303

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 2379

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT BM

SUBJ: BURMA SOCIALIST PROGRAM PARTY CONGRESS OPENS

REF: RANGOON 2356

1. OPENING SESSION OF BURMA SOCIALIST PROGRAM PARTY SECOND CONGRESS
OCTOBER 8 WAS DOMINATED BY LENGTHY ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN NE WIN, IN
WHICH HE:

(A) DISCUSSED "THE ECONOMY OF BURMA AND THE WORLD AND THE MONETARY
SITUATION" IN TERMS VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE HE HAS USED ON PREVIOUS
OCCASIONS, LAYING BLAME FOR MANY OF BURMA'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES
ON EXTERNAL EVENTS BEYOND GUB'S CONTROL,

(B) CALLED ON PEASANTS AND WORKERS TO UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT
GUB'S SECOND FOUR YEAR AND LONG TERM TWENTY YEAR PLANS, AND

(C) BRIEFLY URGED ELECTION OF CAPABLE ORGANS OF PARTY AT VARIOUS
LEVELS, SO THAT INDIVIDUALS ELECTED WOULD SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT
ECONOMIC PLANS AND PARTY FUNCTIONS.

2. POLITICAL REPORT OF PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS PRESENTED BY
GENERAL SAN YU AND REPORT OF PARTY INSPECTION COMMITTEE BY U
THAN SEIN.

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3. ATTENDANCE OF 1,496 DELEGATES OUT OF 1:510 SELECTED (99.7 PERCENT) WAS ANNOUNCED.

4. PRESS FRONTPAGED NE WIN'S SPEECH, WITH EDITORIALS LIKEWISE FOCUSING ATTENTION ON MAJOR POINTS.

5. COMMENT: (A) CONGRESS HAS HAD BLAND AND LACKLUSTER START WHICH HARDLY SURPRISING IN VIEW OF MASSIVE PUBLIC DISINTEREST AND FACT IT IS BEING HELD AT MINGALADON MILITARY BASE WHERE DELEGATES ARE EFFECTIVELY QUARANTINED FROM PUBLIC AT LARGE. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT INTRA-PARTY INFIGHTING AS CITED REFTEL IS GOING ON. SITUATION MAY BECOME SOMEWHAT CLEARER AS CONGRESS PROCEEDS, ALTHOUGH AS USUAL TIGHT VEIL OF SECRECY SURROUNDS ACTIVITIES OF KEY GUB LEADERS.

(B) WHATEVER OUTCOME OF CONGRESS, ONE CONSEQUENCE IS THAT FOR NEXT THREE WEEKS GUB LEADERSHIP WILL BE EXTREMELY PREOCCUPIED (FOREIGN MINISTER, HIS DEPUTY AND SEVERAL KEY MFA OFFICIALS ARE ATTENDING CONGRESS, FOR EXAMPLE), AND NORMALLY SLOW-MOVING WHEELS OF GOVERNMENT WILL COME ALMOST TO HALT AS FAR AS ANY SIGNIFICANT MATTERS CONCERNED.

MARTIN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 OCT 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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